

Ms. Tracy Pelton, Chairperson – Presiding

**DRAFT**

PRESENT: Board President Peggy Kelland (Ex-officio), Karen Karath, Seema Rizvi

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Dwight Bonk and Ms. Pedro

There was no one from the public present.

Chairperson Pelton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
1.) Confirmation of First set of Policies 0000-3000	REVIEW OF POLICY
Peggy Kelland requested that the committee consider adding a core value to policy 0000 to address that the district is concerned with the whole child. The Committee agreed by consensus that Dr. Bonk’s additional core value was excellent: <i>“Our students become well-rounded citizens who are prepared to be contributing members of our community and society.”</i>	Policy 0000
Policy 1230 – Public Participation. The committee agreed to add a sentence to the policy which has been practice but not reflected in the policy, <i>“Speakers shall not address individuals by name or title during public comment.”</i>	Policy 1230
Policy 2250 – Board Committees. The committee discussed and came to consensus that the policy on board committees should include a sentence that the Board President is ex-officio on all committees. The committee also added clarification that the Board reserves the right to terminate any committee at any time.	Policy 2250
Policy 1520 and 1520-R – Prohibited Conduct Chairperson Tracy Pelton provided a sample policy which includes 19 items that are prohibited conduct on school property. This policy is cross-referenced with the Code of Conduct. This policy applies to staff, students, invitees, etc. District Clerk Alberta noted that 1520-R is a regulation and regulation is determined by administration and does not require board approval. The administration will review the recommendations from the committee for updating the regulation.	Policy 1520, 1520R
2.) Follow up of first half of 4000 series received from Bonk, Cardwell, Zipp	REVIEW OF FIRST SERIES OF 4000
Dr. Cardwell provided input on the policies that are related to curriculum. Regarding policy 4000, Dr. Cardwell recommended removing the standards due to on-going changes and using option two to include the instructional goals. The committee noted that the standards were missing science. The district can adopt any curriculum it likes as long as it meets the standards.	Policy 4000, 4010, 4200. 4210, 4315.1
The committee discussed the drop-out rate of students from high-level course offerings, items #6 and 7. The committee clarified that the policy addresses the	4000

<p>student drop-out rate from school but not students who drop course offerings of higher level course offerings. Dr. Bonk suggested adding an item to indicate, <i>“An analysis will be conducted in the event students drop course offerings to determine root causes.”</i> The committee was in consensus regarding this recommendation.</p>	
<p>4200 – Curriculum Management: added on page three <i>“and designated staff”</i>. The committee discussed the process for parents to provide feedback on curricula. Dr. Bonk explained that it would follow the same process established in policy: the first resource would be the teacher, building administrator, coordinator, assistant superintendent, and then superintendent.</p>	4200
<p>4210 – Confirmed that this is the district’s current policy.</p>	4210
<p>4315.1 – Aids Instruction: Recommended change that the Board will approve the content rather than determine. District Clerk Pedro followed up with NYSSBA who explained that the board determines which Aids instructional program will be used in the district, they do not write the curriculum. The committee agreed that the change in wording to <i>“approve”</i>.</p>	4315.1
<p>4321 through 4321.14 is the Special Education policy and was reviewed by Mr. Zipp. On the second page of 4321.7, the committee name was inserted. 4321.8 had a grammatical typo.</p>	
<p>4321.8 – Independent Hearing Officer Appointment: The current policy is that the district reimburses \$85 per hour for a hearing officer. The Board has received a recommendation to increase this rate in several weekly memos. The committee agreed to increase the rate to \$100.</p>	4321.8
<p>4312.13 – The district does not contract with the providers for preschool special education services. The district must use provider on the Dutchess County approved provider list. This language was added to #4 of this policy.</p>	4312.13
<p>Review of Policy 2250 - Board Committees District Clerk Alberta Pedro will clarify with NYSSBA if the policy needs to distinguish that the Policy Committee includes 3 board members plus the Board President as ex-officio.</p>	2250
<p>3.) Grading and Handbooks</p> <p>Chairperson Tracy Pelton provided samples of grading policies from several districts. Policy 4710 indicates <i>“the district will utilize a uniform grading system.”</i> A standardized-based report was implemented. The strategies were not aligned and teachers are using the 1-4 in different ways; it is not consistent. Concerns were brought to the administration who indicated that it would be resolved internally. There are parents who don’t understand the report card and is not providing enough information to the parents. There are teachers who are passionate about fixing the problem.</p>	4710

<p>An important step is to educate the teachers on how to understand the standardized report card and to provide the parents with a guide. Define the 1-4 in a way that parents can understand, and not subject to interpretation (exceeds expectations), for example:</p> <p>4. independently demonstrate          3. consistently demonstrate          2. inconsistently demonstrate          1. limited and require significant teacher help</p>	<p>HANDBOOK/          PARENT GUIDE</p>
<p>The beauty of the standards based report card is the successful breakdown of components and to take those components and create a raw score. A 4 or a 3 is too broad. The purpose of K-6 homework is an extension of learning in the classroom and it does not count toward a student’s grade. Chairperson Pelton would like to see number of assignments and number completed added to the report card. Correcting assignments encourages good work habits and provides input to parents on student progress. Suggestion that there are two grades: one for performance and one for meeting the standards.</p>	<p>STANDARDS-          BASED REPORT          CARD</p>
<p>District Clerk Pedro will provide copies of the parent and teacher grading handbooks to Dr. Michelle Cardwell for review and feedback. The committee would like to see a year-end questionnaire on the grading system from the teachers. Chairperson Pelton is able to meet with Dr. Cardwell at any time.</p>	<p>NEXT STEPS</p>
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<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

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Alberta Pedro  
 District Clerk